

NEW-YORK, SATURDAY, FEB. 3.

ADVERTISEMENTS for The Tribune of Monday ought to be paid for it with places under the new Reform Council—that is to poison and blast it if done at all, it must be by the better class of citizens—rich and poor, mercantile and laboring—coming together and pledging themselves to each other to know nothing of Party, henceforth in Municipal affairs, but stand together in a long and steady pull for City Reform. There must be hundreds willing not merely to vote but to work—to canvas, arrange and organize—to stand for Aldermen and Assistants if need be—and (and we know one great obstacle to better government has hitherto been the obstinate refusal of the fittest men to serve in such thankless, annoying and unpaid positions!) If an effort is to be made, the call for the first general meeting in its favor should be signed by at least one thousand of the best men in the City—men above the suspicion of sinister motive of personal ambition. If such a call, circulated at the Exchange for instance, should not be signed by two-thirds of all who have an opportunity, the movement might as well be given up. People of New-York! Is it time?

LETTERS FROM EUROPE.—We have still two or three letters from our foreign correspondents in type, but crowded out of this morning's Tribune by a press of domestic news. We shall try to find room for them soon.

Mr. Clay in the Senate.

John Quincy Adams, after having filled nearly every eminent station under the Government, from Secretary of Legation up to President, and after having been beaten in a canvass for re-election to the Chief Magistracy, and after spending some years theron in seclusion, yielded to the invitation of his friends and neighbors and at an advanced age accepted a seat in the House of Representatives, his adversaries censured his compliance as wanting in dignity and as inconsistent with the lofty station from which he had descended. Mr. Adams made no formal verbal answer, but patiently, quietly addressed himself to the performance of the public duties thus devolved upon him. He had been the most widely and causally abused man on the continent, and he continued for years to be a shining mark for the arrows of detraction and malignity. These never turned him from his purpose; he rarely stopped to shake them from his sides as he walked steadily in the path of integrity and duty. At one time narrowly escaping expulsion from the House for his intrepid devotion to the Right of Petition, at all times reviled as a fanatic and execrated as a madman, he pursued the even tenor of his way, gradually shaming his enemies into silence by the transparency of his motives and the lofty heroism of his life; and when at last, in the fulness of his years and his fame, he—the last actor in our great Revolutionary drama who lingered on the stage of public life—was stricken down in the midst of his duties, and died in the Nation's Capitol, the whole People recognized the moral grandeur of his career, and mournfully realized that in him had passed away one of the nobles of our Patriot Statesmen.

HENRY CLAY yields to the unanimous call of his devoted compatriots in Kentucky, reiterating the wishes of their fellow-citizens in other States, and returns once more to public life. He is ten years older than Mr. Adams was when he took his seat in the House, but seven years younger than Mr. A. at the date of his decease. We trust many years of life and health will yet be vouchsafed him, and that the most skeptical or hostile will be led to rejoice at his return to the Senate. Though well stricken in years yet his eye is not dim nor his natural (mental) strength abated. In the fulness of his years and his renown, he comes to lay the brief remainder of his life a willing sacrifice on the altar of his country's welfare. We have sanguine hopes that the offering will be blent, and that the evening twilight of his public career will rival its morning splendor, when Genius and Eloquence combined to secure him such an ascendancy over Congress as no other man ever wielded. That all his power and all his intellect will be devoted to the good of his whole country, there live few men so blinded by partisan venom as to doubt.

The Affairs of our City.

Whether Corporation management naturally suggests 'The Forty Thieves,' or vice versa, we were vividly reminded, in recently pondering the condition and prospects of our City Finances, of Morgans going the rounds of the jars (our reminiscence of the Arabian Nights is very ready) and responding to the horse whisper from each, 'Is it time?' 'Is it time?' True, in the Corporation case, we think it waxes rapidly louder and stronger, and that soon the great mass of our citizens will echo the inquiry, 'Is it time to separate our City Government from National and State Politics?' Is it time to elect men to manage our Municipal Affairs on other grounds than their avowed opinions upon topics of grave concern, doubtless, but having no conceivable connection, in reason or in sound policy, with Police and Lamps, with Streets and Sewers? Is it time to ask whether a candidate for Alderman is thoroughly qualified and upright, rather than what he thinks of Free Trade and Taxes, Ad Valorem and Church-taxes? And we believe the day cannot be distant when the greatest majority will answer, It is time!

For our part, we have long been satisfied on this point. We have desired, hoped, expected, to see a great popular movement of the Tax-paying Classes of our City—in which designation we include all who pay Reuts to perform Useful Labor—in favor of a radical and final separation of our Municipal concerns from external Politics. We have long stood ready to unite in such a movement whenever public sentiment should be ripe for it—and it were folly and injury to attempt it before. Whenever the great mass of those who must bear the burdens even of good government and suffer by the abuses of bad shall have become cured of testing fitness for Municipal station by any party Shabbeth—when they shall have become convinced that any civic rule by and for Party cannot be such as the City needs and suffers for—we stand ready, as we have repeatedly declared, to unite in one vigorous effort for the much-needed Reform. 'Is it time?'

But while it is essential that any effort to detach Police from Politics should be general, it is important also that it should be well-considered and thoroughly resolved upon. It will answer no good purpose to have three or four thousand voters separate themselves from their respective parties and take up a position under the fire of both, there to be defeated, broken down, and subjected to execution on this side and on that as instrumentalities causing the 'loss' of this or that Ward, and the success of this or that party in the Common Council. City Reform must be responsible for no other ascendancy than its own—and the responsibility will then be a heavy one. Nor is it worth while to move in the premises unless there is a settled opinion in the Whig party.

Mr. BOND had also been the supporter of Mr. COLLIER, who had been nominated by him, and was succeeded by him in his position. The great Whig party was united upon principle, and in the language of the immortal Harrison, he would say, 'Carry out the true principles of the Party.' The Whig party is still under the banner of the King of Naples, after having been defeated, broken down, and subjected to execution on this side and on that as instrumentalities causing the 'loss' of this or that Ward, and the success of this or that party in the Common Council. City Reform must be responsible for no other ascendancy than its own—and the responsibility will then be a heavy one. Nor is it worth while to move in the premises unless there is a settled opinion in the Whig party.

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